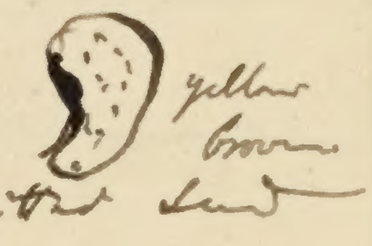
Rec'd Febr 10th
Ans — 19

San Bernardino Cal — 2-2-80

Mamillaria
at Trac pots San Bernardino County



Dear Sir,

Since writing to you a few days ago I have received a large supply of the Mamillaria of which I sent you a specimen. I inclose the remains of a fruit which was in one of them.

They do not differ much from the specimen sent, except that the older ones are somewhat oval, in a few cases inclining to conical, the largest being 2 by 2 1/2 and 2 1/2 by 3 inches in diameter. Some have the spines tinged with red instead of purple —

Yours truly,
Sam'l B. Parish

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Rec March 8th
An — 27

San Bernardino, Calif —
28 Febry 1880

Dr. George Engelmann,

Dear Sir,

It is rather curious that the ~~[illegible]~~ fruits of O. Bigelovii should prove sterile. We cut open a number from the same plant, and all were fertile! which was noted as an unusual fact, the fruits of the cylindropuntias being so often sterile. Some were sent to Mr. Watson, and there may have been fertile ones among them. Supposing the fruits to be fertile no description of the seed was made, but a few and both of it & of O. Echinocarpa were put in the packet, & I send you all that remain, which they belong to you can perhaps tell, but the impression is the smaller seed is of O. Bigelovii. The ~~[illegible]~~ habitat of

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O. Bigelovii is 60 miles from here, but we will have an opportunity some time of getting you some seed thence. Of O. echinocarpa we can probably send you seed soon – We have a plant of O. Bigelovii growing, and if it flowers will send you some. It ought to have been said that the seeds are 1 or few, imbedded in a small quantity of jelly-like matter – The fruit can hardly be called pulpy, but rather of the same nature as the joints, like O. echinocarpa –

We have some two dozen of the Mammillaria growing, & will send you a little ~~[illegible]~~ a plant that will probably flower. The locality of it is Ivanpah, a mining camp 200 m. N.E. of this place & in this (S.B.) Co. It is in one of the ranges of ~~[illegible]~~ Mts. which intersect the Desert – We have, from the same place a sp. of Agave, which may perhaps be new, at least to Cal – Are not the Agaves among your specialties? If it is of interest to you we would gladly send you a plant –

Yours very truly

Parish Bros –

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Rec April 14 1880
Ans — 20

San Bernardino Cal. 5 Apl 1880

Dr Geo Engelmann
St Louis Mo

Dear Sir,

The mail you today another ~~fact~~ specimen of the Mamillaria sp., showing one of the largest sized specimens, & one as different as possible from that sent before. The rather it will flower with you, but will send some flowers if able to do so.

There is also in the box an agave from the same region. The specimen is about half the size of a flowering plant. The there were seen flower or ~~stem~~ seed, but the stems appear to be about 6 ft high branchlets rather short & few flowered. The terminal spines of the leaves are 1½' to 2' long & blackish in vigorous plants.

There is also a branch of a spinescent tree, which we hope you may be able to recognize. It was brought to us from the desert East of here, ~~nearly~~

Fouquieria splendens

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50 miles this side of the Colorado river. It is represented to attain a height of 20 ft, with slender, flexuous branches. The flower, judging from a single dry specimen, is long tubular (!with?) lobes very small, filiform & exserted. Perhaps Echinocereus splendens, Engelmann.

Whether to have a chance to get you some seed of O. Rafinesquii soon

Is there any work description of the Cactaceae of the U.S. or on the order?

Very respectfully yours
Parish Bros.

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Rec May 1st
Ans 4

San Bernardino, Cal 22 Apl 1880

Dr. Geo. Engelmann
St Louis Mo,

Dear Sir,

A few days ago we sent you per post a skeleton of Opuntia Bigelovii, and some flowers and fruit, and hope they may arrive in condition to be of service to you. Should the flowers be damaged we have others drying which we can send you.

At the time of flowering, as you will notice, the ~~receptacle~~ ovary produces long, slender, brittle, and apparently soon-deciduous spines, for even after flowering the fruit is found to be without them.

One of the fruits sent is mummified, but it is unusual. From an examination of a large

number. It appears that the ovules are many, usually opening 2-3 and, rarely many.

Our Mamillarias are budding freely, and as soon as they flower we will send you some specimens.

The other opuntia seed, as O. echinocarpa? was from Agua Caliente, growing with O. Bigelovii.

Is there any work on the Cactaceae of the U.S. or on the Order?

Yours respectfully,

Parish Bros.

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Missouri Botanical Garden
George Engelmann Papers

Rec May 8
An 9

San Bernardino, Cal
29 April 1880 -

Dr. Geo. Engelmann,
Dear Sir,

The manzanita has just flowered, and we send you a few flowers, and one or two real open buds, and I hope that they may reach you in a sufficiently fresh state to enable you to identify it. It also appears to agree well in description, and we can give the flower.

Flower, long tubular 1' long, 1/2' diameter
Sepals, white, in about 5 rows, lanceolate, accumulate, other, margins strongly fimbriate to the apex.
Petals, very large, straw-colored, sometimes purplish at the ~~apex~~ top - about 20, in ~~rows~~, narrowly lanceolate, accumulate, fimbriate at base

Stamens, many; filaments filiform, white, pointed at the tops; Anthers oblong.
Style, stout, stigma 5-lobed.
Ovary, small, many seeded.
Your kind form of the 20th is at hand. Since writing to you we have an opportunity to see Fouquieria apiculata growing abundantly in the neighborhood of Toros, 100 miles East of here. It was in full flower, Apl 10, and the flower well merits the specific name. We have cuttings, like the one sent you, now growing.
Some Agave sent here from Utah, as A. Utahensis does not resemble the one sent you. But the native habitat of the latter is near enough to Utah to ~~form~~

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from the supposition that it is a. latifolia. Has that species been found in California heretofore?

If the mamillaria flowers do not go through in good ~~ste~~ order we can send you dried specimen some.

Very respectfully yours,

Pamela Bowers.

P.S. Mon weather ~~fear~~ has been very very cloudy since the mamillaria has been in flower, & it would very probably in bright sunshine assume a more open form, but we send you the fresh flowers, without waiting for the weather to clear, and see if they do not open wider

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Rec June 4

San Bernardino Co.
May 26, 1880

Dear Dr. Engelmann

I send herewith first some flowers of the Mammillaria. Although can we take in drying them, they are not in very good order, but we believe would be of use to you. The color varies from a dull straw-yellow to very light purple-to-yellow, and the specimens I am ~~sent~~ as large as any flowers we have had.

The other flower is what we take to be Echinocactus Wislizeni, which is abundant on the desert to the East, attaining a height of nearly six feet. We have another large Echinocactus, apparently of a different species, of which we would like to send you specimens, as we find a difficulty in placing

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it. Do you consider E. Le Conteii as distinct from E. Hirtiguei. It would seem from Bot. Cal. that you were inclined not to regard it the former as a good species.

Very respectfully yours
Parish Bros.

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George Engelmann Papers

Ans Berkeley July 4 74

San Bernardino Cal
31 June 1880 —

Dr. Geo Engelman —

Dear Sir;

Your valued letter & postal came while absent on a botanical trip to the southern ~~extreme~~ part of San Diego & Mexican border —

The most interesting incident was the discovery of Pinus Parryana on American soil. This was ~~50~~ 65 m. S.E. of San Diego, near ~~Larkins~~ Walkerin's Station on the old Yuma road. It is quite abundant on a high ridge across the Mexican line 10-12 miles distant, & Mr. Larkins, who owns the place, says there are a number of straggling trees through the hills. I of this is the first time I have

been found in the U.S. it should be
carried to Parish & E. R. Sabey -
At Mountain Springs, 15 miles
further, & at the edge of the desert,
~~was~~ there were a few Opuntias
Bigelovii, probably its western limit.
I could not find any cact o-
would have got you some -
There also were Echinocactus
cylindracus, Mammillaria phelle-
=sperma, 2 sp. Opuntias. Agave
deserti in full bloom. A Yucca
probably Y. Parryi, but not in bloom -
Fouquieria splendens, just going out
of bloom. The latter had been
used as a substitute for lathing
in making a tule & dirt roof &
the builder told us that they had
retained sufficient vitality to
flower a year after they were
put in the roof -! I know of
one growing which was cut
down as a cane on a 50 mile

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walk through the desert mountain
Agave deserti is also abundant
on the dry ridge of Mts. that extends
from San Jacinto to Torres. We
have dry specimens of it & plants,
at your disposal. Also specimens
of Pinus Parryi.
We do not know Echinocactus
Emoryi.
Many thanks for your again
proofs, which are of great
interest to us.
Are most glad that you are
to visit this section, & hope to
enjoy the pleasure of seeing you
when here
Very respectfully yours
Parish Bros.

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George Engelmann Papers

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Rec Nov 30 by courtesy of Dr Parry

San Bernardino
15/11 1880

Dear Dr. Engelmann

We rec'd your collection for express Saturday, & hope they have reached you safely.

Mr. Smith told me that he had seen, off Big Creek (on your side) a species of 12 feet or more high at Chuckawalla, on the road from Dos Palmas to Ehrenberg, about 60 miles this side of the Colorado river.

Regarding that stick of Quercus oblongifolia collected for Prof. Sargent, which did not have a black heart, I have recalled a fact that will probably explain its peculiarity. Mr. Vasey cut a limb for one section, & this it probably

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the one -

Please give my regards to Dr. Porter. I will show him Baccharis Porteri when he comes down here -

Hoping that you may have a pleasant journey home, & especially that you may return next spring, I remain,

Very respectfully yours

S. B. Parish

Dr. Geo. Engelmann
Acad. Science
St. Louis

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Rec March 29

San Bernardino, Cal.
30 March, 1881

Dear Dr. Engelmann, —

I am very glad to get your kind and interesting letter and to receive assurance that you had not forgotten your California friends. It is something that you do not say that you are not coming out this Spring but I had hoped that you would write that you had determined to come. However we will hope that you may yet be able to do so, and, I must tell you, the Cacti are already flowering in the desert, although Opuntia Bernardina does not show any flower yet.

As for the figs are the prospects of obtaining flowers or fruit are not very good at present. It

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grows at Ivanpah ~~perhaps~~ over 100 miles S E of here, & by the road 200 miles, and I do not know any one there now from whom I could get specimens. But if there is any chance I will try to get avail myself of it. Perhaps in a year or two, those in our gardens may bloom. I have today put in press the fruit of our two species of ~~pop~~ Populus, (Fremontii, or & trichocarpa) and as soon as they are dry will send you complete specimens of both sexes of both species. If there is anything else here that I can get for you I hope you will give me the pleasure of doing so. I suppose Dr. Parry is supplying you with all the

specimens of Cacti that you need, but if more are wanted please let me know of it.

You sent me your paper on the Agaves with the supplement. I would be very glad to have any of your other papers you may have spare copies of. I will also call to your mind that you spoke of sending me the address of some gentleman in Mexico with whom you thought I might be able to make exchanges—

We made some wine—not vinegar—last fall, but as to the quality I must refer you to Dr. Parry,—or better, come & sample it yourself—

My brother joins in kind regards.

Very truly yours
S. B. Parish.

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Rec Sept 20
Ans Oct 4

San Bernardino Cal. –
10 Sept. 1881

Dear Doctor; –

Your kind letter of Sept 3d is at hand, and we are much obliged to you for the information about the Sta Monica station. We hope to be able to refund your plants soon. You will probably find specimens of the Whitewater Ephedra in the package we sent you. We intended to put in some, but you was neglected to do so please let us know how we will send some, as we have a good supply. Since sending the package we have found Mr. Wright's juncus (J. xiphioides, Eng) not only near the foot of the Mtns, but on the top of them, near the Nitids which you visited with us – say at 4 5000 ft. elevation.

We are quite sure that we have in Carex that is not reported from California; very likely an Arizona –

P.S. We enclose a few specimens
of Grancia, probably for the most part
duplicates of those already sent — but
with perhaps apparent differences in some
of them.

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species, (perhaps C. Fendleri?) It has not yet flowered, but the appearance of the species is very different from those of C. Engelmannii. We hope it will grow and flower next year to send you — or perhaps you may be here to see it! It is from Durango, the home of Mam. desertii. The agaves, too, from the same place, have some signs of blooming next year.

Dicentra chrysantha is perennial! The roots are not exactly running, but all the plants in a patch are connected by the roots. We have it in cultivation three years old. No doubt your specimen is the same in habit as the old one.

We had a pleasant visit last week from Dr Parry & Rev. Mr. Greene, and then learned that you had decided not to come out this season. Hope you will be able to do so next year.

Very truly yours
Parvita Bros.

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Rec Oct 31

San Bernardino Cal
26 Oct. 1881

Dear Doctor,

We sent you today the White water Ephedra, and have sent with it a few other plants we would like you to look at. The species of cercus are from the plant previously mentioned, and which we have had in cultivation about two years, but which has not yet flowered. Its appearance is very distinct from C. Engelmanni. The acorns & leaves of oak from San Fernando hills are from trees growing with Q. oblongifolia, which they resemble in color of bark, size and general aspect.

Stillingia annua, which we sent before, was collected about the 1st of March, and the plants presented every appearance of having lasted over from the previous

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year. Are there any other seed on your specimen? If not we can probably find some among ours & it might be tried in cultivation

857, Juncus compressus, forma aphylla. This grows plentifully in the damp soil about our house, and we have examined a great many without finding any variation from the leafless state, so that it may probably be considered constant.

848. A more robust Juncus, which you think possibly the same as the above, we have also reexamined, and in it also find all the plants leafless. It looks so different from 857 that more mature specimens which we will send you next season, may prove it to be distinct. At present all the seed has fallen.

Juncus aequalis we have

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lately found along the edge of the
Santa Ana river near our house.
This and our previously noted station
on top of the mountains gives a
good wide range of altitude for
the new species — Parish Gro.

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P.S. We made some explorations in the hills back of Sta Monica but did not have the good luck to see anything of your Dicentra ochra lucea

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Rec March 27
Ans 29

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San Bernardino Cal
26 Mch 1882

Dear Dr. Engelmann,

We send you today a seedling one year plant of Yucca elata — cultivated, thinking that you might be interested in seeing the roots of it. Are the enlarged ones to be regarded as storage reservoirs of food for the dry season? We have taken up a number of plants & find one or two enlarged roots always present.

There is a specimen of cactus also inclosed, with fruit. It is from the desert, almost down to the Colorado River. We guessed it to be O. echinocarpa, but would like you

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to say what it is. Plants 3-4 ft
upright, with few & short joints, some
of them easily detachable: spines
bright & living to the base: joints few
and mostly infertile

Dr. Parry has gone down to San
Diego, whence he reports a very good
season, & the rains covering of some
good things. Mr. Pringle has
been with us some days, but is
about to go down to San Diego
for a time, intending to return
later. Our season is very backward
and has been very cold & dry but
we have just had a glorious
rain of more than a week's duration,
and the mountains are full of
snow, so we hope after a while
to pick up some good plants

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and among them we may have the good fortune to find some that will interest you.

It is probably useless to expect to see you at here this summer, but we can't help thinking that we will get here that pleasure. Meanwhile, and ever, we remain,

Very respectfully yours,

Sarah Bro.

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Rec April 17
ans May 17

San Bernardino, Calᵃ
8 April, 1882

Dear Doctor Engelmann:

Sorry we cannot give you the desired particulars about that cactus (O. echinocarpa?), but we only hastily gathered the joints that you, as the plants seemed to look so different from O. echinocarpa, consisting of a few joints only, tall (3 to 4 ft) and not branching as that specimen usually does — There were none in flower, or with leaves more fully grown.

We were under the impression that we had already sent you specimens of the Sarcostemma Ephedra, but will make certain by sending you some ~~specimens~~ very soon. We have several things laid away which we wish to send you, and there are too many

things coming on which we want to include. One is the corms of which we enclose specimens last fall, and which you thought might be C. Mohavensis. It is now in bud — we will soon have flowers to end you. The other is the Agave from Guanajuato referred to you in Bot. Cal. Vol 2, to A. ~~Utah~~ Utahensis. We have never felt willing to believe it that species, it seems so distinct in the leaves from the true A. Utahensis which we have in cultivation. It is quite a satisfaction to have it flower, so that its identity can be satisfactorily determined. It is not unlikely that we can get seed, too, from the original station.

Your explanations of the nature of these enlarged bodies — subterranean stems — of the Yuccas, is very interesting.

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They are noticeably numerous in young plants of the numerous Yucca from S. Luis Potosi, which we have from Dr Parry, and we have them about three years old, but the stems have not yet turned up to the surface — they are present, but less well developed as in Y. baccata, but entirely wanting in Y. whipplei. We have dug up a great many of these & have never noticed the stems, & have examined several since your letter, but without finding any stems. This species seems to be biologically as well as morphologically separated from the rest of the genus. So far as we can learn it is the only one which dies after flowering. Are there any others which do so?

It has been very interesting to watch the germination of the species. In all the species we have grown the process seems to be this. First the cotyledons lengthen greatly, coming up to & above the surface of the soil, then a plumule is sent, it curves over and recurves the ground

and forms a root: 3d., after some time ~~3d~~ the first leaf breaks from near the soil at the root end of the cone, 4, 4th, in time the elongated cotyledon perishes, the nourishment stored in the seed having been exhausted — In the Agaves, on the contrary, the elongating cotyledon carries the seed ~~on~~ out of the ground, where it remains adherent until its nutriment has been consumed & the first leaves have started — How we rightly understood these processes? Of course it is an old story to you —

Many thanks for ~~for~~ the coming of your "Doctor," we have been trying to find some seeds, and perhaps the instruction your paper gives may enable us to have better success this season than heretofore — The seed of Fuscia Purpureifolia was also very acceptable

Parry & Pringle are making a little trip into that terra incognita the California peninsula — We mean to see if there is anything new left on the Mohave desert, this season —

Very truly yours.

Parish Bros

P.S.
The wine is good this year
taste you could buy it!

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

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Rec'd May 17
Ans " "

1225 Agavia parvifl. ?
1226 Euph. crinitus ?
1223 Q. pungens
1238 Ephed. oxycarpa

San Bernardino, Cal
10 May 1882

Dear Dr. Engelmann,

We send you today a package of plants, some of which we hope will interest you. The Cereus is the same you thought from the specimen to be C. Wislizenii, but the seems more like C. Fendleri.

No. 1225 is a scrubbook from the dry hills of our desert. The Ephedra 1238 is an occasional specimen from pretty well up on the East slope of San Jacinto, Mate flowers were not seen. No. 1239, Euphorbia is the sufferer n. side of last year. The grape vine was suspected, perhaps wrongly, of being V. Arizonicus.

We find Yucca angustissima in the canons on the desert slope of San Jacinto, & quite common all through the Sierra Mts. It is not at all weak, except where shaded & crowded, elsewhere it grows erect & in small clumps.

In a few days we are going out on the Mojave desert, & when we return may have some more things with which to go.

The Agave has a fine stalk & will soon flower. Dr. Parry was here a few days ago and agrees with me that it is not A. lechuguilla. Well and for flowers when they open —

The plants are in flowers order now — if there were only fourteen days in the week what collecting might be done! — as it is we are trying to fill every spare minute with collecting.

We have just received from England a very fine seed of Agave Victoriae Reginae & enclose you a part of them. Is that the correct name?

Yours,

Yours very truly

Parry Bro

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Rec June 14'
Ans — 26

BROTHERS
Bernardino, CAL

San Bernardino Cal 6 June 1882

Dear Dr. Engelmann,

The specimens hereunto are few plants, which we will be glad to have you report upon. No 1245 Cercus Mohavensis seems identical with the one we before sent as an flower of. It grows quite abundantly on the Mojave side of the San B. Hills — usually in ~~loose~~ dense compact masses, of 100 to 200 or more short heads. The original stems apparently become procumbent & then a number of joints stick from the upper side, which at last very large masses are produced —

1368, Ephedra seems identical with No. 1236 from Agua Caliente, sent you already. It is quite abundant on the higher parts of the Mojave desert — 2 to 4 ft high, trunk 1½ to 2 in at most, very much branched —

1385, Ephedra, only a few were seen —

1391 Appears to be true Stillingia annua, but we are hardly ready yet to identify it with our No. 306 from the Colorado desert.

1259 Euphorbia is the one sent you last year from the San B. Hills. This long to get more mature ones later —

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The agave seems to be A. utahensis after all. There are no branches, the flowers occurring in panicles.

We hope to have some more things of interest to send you soon & will then get an exact Spanish signature for you.

You are no doubt correct in pronouncing the Agave Calcicola White a form of V. Californica. Its deeply colored leaves can be found on the ones growing in this valley.

We have seen your Whitewater mentzelia in flower, 21 in Mt. Laguna.

1226, Euphorbia eremica we thought a perennial, but there is some room for doubt. We send it as single plants, of which we send you the rest.

The season is very pleasant & favorable to vegetation, & plants are all in fine order this year. We have just returned from a two weeks' trip on the Mojave desert, bringing in over a hundred specimens we have not before collected, & found some good things among them.

Poissy has found Nutt. & P. tenuifolia to Arizona, seeking new ones to Cuyamaca.

Truly yours

Parish Bros

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

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Rec July 13
Ans 17

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

July 5, 1882

Dear Doctor Engelmann!

We send you today the additional specimens of Nos. 1384, 1370 which you wished to avail ourselves of the opportunity to ~~send~~ submit a few more plants to you. We also send you a few of our Mojave plants to show to you that it is a good botanical region. We got over a dozen new ~~ge~~ species there including one genus. It seems of the best ground use only ~~dried~~ spread out — for next year —

You will see by the plant sent this time that we have been down to Vallecito & San Felipe. It is a promising field although we were too late for most things. Agave deserti were in full bloom by the miles, thousands & thousands, & we wished that Dr. Engelmann was there to see & measure & note. We measured a scape 16 ft high & I am sure there were some 4 ft longer. They are from 2 to 3 in in diameter, & the branch left one a perfect mass of flowers, see how we had to ~~[illegible]~~ trim it out to make a specimen. When one shakes a scape, especially in the morning, there is a perfect shower of nectar ~~honey~~ falls. It is unexpired & sweet like, &

with a slight disagreeable flavor - One of us tried eating the pulp of the leaf, & found the taste not unpleasant, but it left a sore mouth for a week -

We kept a bright look out for Echinocactus cylindraceus & Opuntia Parryi, but not a vestige of them did we see, but there is plenty of Echinocereus & may it not be that ~~that~~ after all E. cylindraceus is only a form of that polymorphous species. Is there any real difference except the "juicy" fruit? Otherwise we have looked for that juicy fruit, but never found it -

Quercus oblongifolia comes down a canon from Julian to the edge of San Felipe rancho, probably its eastern limit in Calif. - A little west of Julian (Ballena Rdo) it is very abundant & grows, much larger than we have seen elsewhere, & with denser & more spreading top. We saw them with 100 ft. spread, the trees apparently only half that ~~height~~ height. A few trees, of course, only, are affected with what appears to be a scale ~~bug~~ insect. We send you specimens -

Yucca brevifolia flowered very abundantly on the Mojave this year - the blossoms are not at all fetid - or for as we saw - or smelled -

We hope the eastern climate will have a more returning effect on Dr. Parry than it seems to have on Dr. Engelmann, for we cannot reconcile ourselves to this departure -

Faithfully yours Parish Bros

San Bernardino Cal^a June 7' 92

Dear Sir:

The flower of what we have as Ab. cuticla, Mutt certainly does not accord with his description. Perhaps it may be O. crinacea E. & B, the flower of which is unknown, it is from the right part of the country. Dr Engelmann saw the plants growing in our garden & thought them O. cuticla; they were not in flower, & indeed have flowered this year for the first time, & then while we were away, so that your note is the first information we have of the discrepancy in the flowers! Hope you will need, if truly, & then we do, we will send you some. The seed is the best character, there is very little in the shapes or color of the flowers. Get the P. O. order work another year & we will send you some more specimens this summer. Truly Yours Bros

BROTHERS
San Bernardino

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& Church & Chew Sts
Germantown
Penna

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Rec Aug 27, Brookline
Ans — 27 & Oct 18.

PARISH BROTHERS,
San Bernardino, Cal.

Aug 15 – 1882

Dear Dr. Engelmann:

In sending you a few plants the other day we forgot the inclosed opuntia, which we wish to submit to your judgement – We got the plant from Guanajuato some two years ago & supposed it to be O. cantilla. It blossomed this season for the first time, producing a rather small yellow flower, which we allowed to ripen to see in the fruit. It does not appear to resemble very closely the figure of the seed of O. rutila in Pacific R.R. report, & it may perhaps be rather a form of O. Missouriensis. What do you say? The plant is upright in its habit of growth, & the joints often three times the size of the specimen.

Very truly yours
Parish Bros

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Rec Oct 31
Ans Nov 1

San Bernardino, Oct 25/82

Dear Doctor!

We send you today a short section of the scape of Agave deserti so that you can see the size it attains — Also send a fruit of Yucca baccata —

Mr. Wright has been with me a little while, but is about to leave for Arizona; his sections have kept him away from them much longer than he intended or expected — Still he hopes to pick up a few things yet —

Our agent Mr. Parry still sticks to San Francisco, but I am in daily hopes of seeing him down here —

We have had good success in our collecting this year, considering the time we have been able to give to it. The fall we expect to

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print a list of the plants we have collected. Are you willing that Ephedra oxycarpa should be included?

You have no doubt been too busy yet to look over the last bundle we sent you. There are one or two things in it we are curious to know what you will say about them.

There seems to be indications of an early, rainy season this year which means a fine crop of mosses in the spring. Of course we hope it may prove so, that botanizing may be good next year.

With great respect, we remain,
Your truly
Parish Bros.

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Rec Nov 15
ans Dec 25

Parish Bro & write:

San Bernardino Nov 8. 1882

Dear Dr.

Yours of Nov 1st is at hand. The fruit of Yucca brevifolia (baccata var in Engelm Pennsylv) is erect on the pedicels, and does not open at all naturally. The fruit sent was gathered in early in August, & was then dry & spongy, just as now. It is unusually smooth & well formed. Generally the fruit are wormy & ~~the~~ are somewhat misshapen & contain some gummy matter. We send you a few ordinary fruit, which are now just as when picked. Birds & rodents are very fond of the seed & ~~are~~ destroy all the fruit soon after it gets ripe, or at least they were rapidly doing so last August.

This is the first we have heard of Euphorbia Bernardina.

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Have you had it from us? It is no doubt the one we have distributed as E. Palmeri. We enclose you a fragment of a fruiting specimen, and a scrap by which you can recognize the flowers. It is abundant all through the Mts. at 4000 to 5000 ft. We do not think that you named it from Mt that we call the E. Palmeri in our own antecedents.

We have seen your Phitauantha Mentzelia in bloom and it is apparently identical with what passes for M. laevicaulis from other ~~portions~~ parts of this region. We not think we have ever sent it to Cambridge at all.

Our good Dr. Parry is yet in San Francisco, but we hope to see him soon here by the

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15th of this month. We have no doubt informed you of the causes which compelled Mr. Pringle to abandon his work in this court. Mr. Pringle's course will no doubt be placed in an unfavorable light in certain quarters, but any one acquainted with the men & the circumstances will certainly acquit him of blame.

It is raining tonight for the first time ~~on~~ this fall & we hope that our rainy season has set in.

Very truly yours
Parish Bros

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Rec'd Dec 19

Dec 10, 1882

Dear Doctor.

Juncus aculeatus is very scarce, but I've sent you two specimens, & if we get up into Bear Valley next summer we'll get a good supply, as we know just where it grows. Q. cymosiculatus is less certain, as we only remember about where it came from.

How about Euphorbia ~~Palmeri~~ Bernardina, is it a good species? If so we want to include it in our list.

Dr. Parry & Mrs P. are staying in San Diego, but we expect the Dr. here tomorrow for a day.

Very truly yours Parish Bros

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Dr. George Engelmann
3003 Locust St
St Louis
Mo.

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Rec March 19
Ans

San Bernardino Cal
12 March 1883

My dear Doctor,

We have today received your two letters of March 6th and desire to thank you for your kind interest in the matters to which they relate.

It will be best to defer sending the large C. Wislizeni to Prairie till some time next month, when all danger of frost will be past and when it will still be cool enough to prevent heating. We will send, as you suggest two good specimens of this Cactus.

The Agave Victoriæ Reginæ here are small seedling plants obtained from Palmer's seed. If you think such plants will suit we will send

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them by mail, but shall wait untill we hear from you.

We will at once send a package of seed of Fraxinus Oxyhynchus and of Ranunculus Cultorum by mail. Would it not be well to send same seed of Ech. Wislizeni? It germinates very readily. We can also furnish seed of O. basilonis, if it struck a little of Mam. philadelphus.

As for the Leipzigan we shall await his letter.

We greatly regret to ~~hear~~ hear that you have been unwell during the winter, but warm weather is at hand. You will yet find that California is a good place to winter in. Dr. Parry was here a few

days ago, and we were ~~glad~~ glad to find him looking and feeling very well, much better than ~~when~~ he was last season. He is greatly interested in his exploration of Lower California. He finally gave us a few plants of the new rose, and they are already sprouting vigorously.

This has been a miserable winter for us too, very cold and dry. We have had only about two inches of rain, and it is now so late that we can expect very little more. The desert at Whitewater &c is said to have fared better, the ground is reported to be well soaked there.

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Would our friends Carl and
Otto send of Yucca or
Agave? We have several
species
We remain
Very truly yours
Parish Bros

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Rec April 24

San Bernardino Cal
17 April 1883

Dear Dr.

Some time ago we sent to Marseilles the seeds you suggested, and half (12) of the small Agave Victoriæ Reginæ. There is considerable liability of loss in sending the Agave, so we thought it best to make two shipments. The above went for mail. We have just sent for RR. two (2) specimens of Echinocereus Mislizeni. We got two that had as fibrous roots as could be found to put plenty of moss around the roots, so we hope that will be satisfactory. They do not have much root anyway, generally three or four very long stiff rope like

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and that must be cut
of in packing. But when
we got away rocks, &
they have considerable
fiber.

It would be necessary
to go to Maricopa to get
the Cereus gigantéus, & the
expenses of our men there
and back would be about
$100. We hardly feel
authorized to make this
expenditure on the order
which you gave, viz, to
send "if possible". If it is
desirable we will get them
for $5.00 per day and all
expenses, but will not
go unless positively
ordered.

We found things very
backward on at Whitewater.
In 1880 we were down on the

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10th January and found things just about as far advanced as they were this year in April. That is the difference which plant makes. Vegetation is but meagre yet in the valley, although many plants are in flower ~~this~~ already. It has been too cold & dry for a very good season. It seems probable that we will be unable to devote much time to collecting this year. We intend to be glad to do so, but other business must be attended to.

Very truly yours

Parish Bros

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Missouri Botanical Garden
George Engelmann Papers

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Rec May 8 '83

San Bernardino Cal
2d May 1883

Dear Doctor,

We have your favor of 21st ult., and regret that you were put to the trouble of writing to Paris about the Cocti. We wrote to the Count at the same time that we did to you, & explained everything, but thought it desirable to inform you also what had been done. It was an oversight not to tell you that we had done so.

We sent the mail packages to Mr. ~~Otager~~ St. Foix at Marseilles because we supposed that they were for the same establishment as the ~~Cocti~~, viz, a botanic garden at Marseilles. Of course we wrote to M. ~~Otager~~ St. Foix at the same time, so that they will no doubt reach them

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distribution safely.

We charged $15.00 each for the E. Wislizeni plants, and the freight to N.Y. was $15.00 for the two being at the rate of over $6.00 for 100 lbs. It would take ~~the~~ 3 to four days to go to Maricopa and get C. gigantea. It would be necessary to employ a wagon to bring the plants in to the depot. Box & packing would be but a trifle, altho' the latter would have to be taken there. The freight would be something less than $100, about $80, probably, so that the whole cost of getting 2 or 3 need not, much exceed $120, in all probability.

We regret very much the necessity which prevents our devoting as much time to botany this year as last, but there seems no escape. Perhaps another year. It is a pity that it does not pay.

We remain, Very truly

Charles Bros

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